

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows. Applicant has included herewith a complete claim set with insertions and deletions indicated by underlining and strikethrough (or double bracketing), respectively.

1. (Currently amended) A therapeutic vehicle adapted for application to acute or chronic cutaneous wounds wherein said vehicle has integral therewith, or applied thereto, a cell culture surface obtainable by plasma polymerisation and containing a carboxylic acid functionality of at least 5%, to which at least one keratinocyte is attached, to which cells comprising keratinocytes attach and detach to transfer to a wound bed of the acute or chronic cutaneous wounds, characterised in that said at least one keratinocyte is capable of detachment from said culture surface and transfer to an acute or chronic cutaneous wound, upon contact with a wound bed the surface contains a carboxylic acid functionality of at least 5%.
2. (Original) A vehicle according to claim 1, wherein said surface acid functionality is between 5-20%.
3. (Previously presented) A vehicle according to claim 1, wherein said surface acid functionality is greater than 20%.
4. (Canceled)
5. (Previously presented) A vehicle according to claim 1, wherein said carboxylic acid functionality is provided by propionic acid.
6. (Previously presented) A vehicle according to claim 1, wherein said carboxylic acid functionality is provided by acrylic acid.
7. (Previously presented) A vehicle according to claim 1, wherein said surface is provided by coating a substrate with a plasma co-polymer of a carboxylic acid containing monomer.

8. (Original) A vehicle according to claim 7, wherein said co-polymer is a mixture of acrylic acid and a hydrocarbon.
9. (Original) A vehicle according to claim 8, wherein said hydrocarbon is 1,7-octadiene.
10. (Original) A vehicle according to claim 9, wherein acrylic acid is provided at 50-100% and 1,7-octadiene is provided at 0-50% in the gas feed.
11. (Previously presented) A vehicle according to claim 1, wherein said surface is suitable for use with cells of mammalian origin.
12. (Original) A vehicle according to claim 11 wherein said mammalian cells are human.
- 13.-14. (Canceled)
15. (Previously presented) A vehicle according to claim 1, wherein said vehicle comprises matrix material.
- 16-24. (Canceled)
25. (Previously presented) A method for the treatment of cutaneous wounds, comprising using a therapeutic vehicle according to claim 1.
26. (Original) A method according to claim 25, wherein said plasma is created using a plasma power of 0-50W and a flow rate of 0-20sccm under continuous wave conditions.
27. (Original) A method according to claim 25, wherein said plasma is created using pulsed wave conditions.

28. (Previously presented) A method for the treatment of acute or chronic cutaneous wounds, comprising using a therapeutic vehicle according to claim 8, wherein said acid is acrylic acid and said hydrocarbon is 1,7-octadiene.

29. (Original) A method according to claim 28, wherein said plasma comprises 50-100% acrylic acid and 0-50% 1,7-octadiene in the gas feed.

30. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 29, wherein said plasma comprises the following percentages of acrylic acid and 1,7-octadiene:

acrylic acid %	1,7-octadiene %
50	50
60	40
70	30
80	20
90	10
100	0

31. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 29, wherein said plasma comprises the following percentages of acid and hydrocarbon:

acid %	hydrocarbon %
50	50
60	40
70	30
80	20
90	10
100	0

32. (Previously presented) A therapeutic vehicle according to claim 1, wherein said vehicle is a prosthesis, an implant, a matrix, a stent, a gauze, a bandage, a plaster, a biodegradable matrix or a polymeric film.